: ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

DOCKET NO: 257550US0PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

MARIO PINZA, ET AL.

SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. APPLICATION

(BASED ON PCT/EP03/02258)

FILED: HEREWITH

FOR: USE OF AN L-ASCORBIC ACID

SALT TO PREPARE A PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITION, FOR

OPHTHALMIC TOPICAL USE, CAPABLE OF IMPROVING THE LEVEL OF L-ASCORBIC ACID IN

THE EYE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.